



Governor Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg  
San Wong, Director

## **Sex Offender Research Council Minutes of Regular Meeting**

Lucas Building  
321 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Rooms 319-320  
Des Moines, Iowa

**October 25, 2017**

**Present:** Jerry Bartruff\*; Terry Cowman; Clint Frederiksen; Andrea Muelhaupt; Tim Ross\*; Rebecca Stout; Tony Tatman; Daniel Zeno; Ex-officio: Rep. Kristi Hager

**Staff:** Steve Michael\*; Kile Beisner; Sarah Fineran; Julie Rinker

**Others:** Craig Andrew; Cathy Engel; Larry Freed; Alice Wisner  
\*by phone

### **I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions**

Steve Michael called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

### **II. Approval of Minutes – November 16, 2016**

**Jerry Bartruff moved to approve the minutes from the November, 2016, meeting, seconded by Andrea Muelhaupt. The motion was unanimously approved.**

### **III. Presentation on Sex Offender Programming in Iowa**

Tony Tatman, Larry Freed, and Craig Andrew presented information on sex offender treatment and supervision in Iowa and the transition to a new curriculum entitled the "Good Lives Model".

New research suggests that treatment should help offenders move forward by getting more "positives" into their lives. This self-regulation model is cutting edge for sex offender treatment and recommended by the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers. While there is no validated curriculum for sex offender treatment, there is research-informed curriculum. Tatman attributed this to the wide variety of sex offender types—child, rape, exposers, voyeurs, etc.

A treatment team representing each judicial district, correctional facilities, and the Department of Corrections reviewed best practices curricula for sex offender treatment. The Good Lives Model (GLM) was selected. This curriculum has been developed specifically for sex offenders and facilitators and includes supplemental

reading/activity materials. It can be facilitated by a variety of individuals without certification or licensure, making it easier to implement statewide.

Beginning in mid-November, the author will conduct training with all staff involved with sex offenders to provide a seamless transition and shared language from prison staff to community-based services.

The team is developing an implementation plan. Outcomes will be measured by Creighton University. A Byrne grant will fund materials and training.

Freed and Andrew, who teach at the Newton Correctional facility, provided information regarding implementation within the prison system. The GLM addresses ten specific areas of life and the disruption that comes from offending behavior. The program provides accountability, allows offenders to receive higher or lower service dosages as necessary, and provides an open period where offenders can join the treatment group. Facilitators are trained through the Iowa Board of Sexual Abusers and other materials can be supplemented as part of the group discussion. They were hopeful that more offenders would be receptive to treatment due to the overall positive focus.

#### **IV. Annual Report**

- An Analysis of Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence Charge Dispositions, and Mandatory Terms

Sarah Fineran reviewed the above report. She noted that the analysis was being proposed as the Council's annual report.

Last year's report looked at the intersection of sex abuse and domestic assault. Research found that the co-occurrence of these two crimes was low at the conviction level.

This year's report looks at the disposition of these cases and provides an analysis on charge information. The research identified disposition and conviction rates for offenders charged with sexual abuse or domestic assault, and whether mandatory minimum sentencing for offenders convicted of domestic abuse 3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent offenses had any effect on public safety (as passed in HF263).

Terry Cowman noted that the data presented show a percentage of convictions. He requested that the data also show the number of convicted offenders.

**There was no further discussion. Cowman moved to approve the report as edited, seconded by Tatman. The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### **V. Future Reporting Format**

Michael reported that due to staffing, CJJP is looking for ways to reduce analysis time while improving the reporting process. A draft report format was shared and would summarize sex offender-related legislation—a snapshot of what is happening in Iowa.

Representative Kristi Hager asked that the report include a section for recommended legislation. There was consensus to have staff follow legislation during the upcoming legislative session and schedule a conference call during the summer to discuss any recommendations.

**VI. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker  
Administrative Secretary  
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning  
Iowa Department of Human Rights